

## H A N

HAND. *n. f.* [hand, *hant*, Saxon, and in all the Teutonic dialects.]

1. The palm with the fingers; the member with which we hold or use any instrument.  
They laid *hands* upon him, and bound him *hand* and foot.  
*Kneller's History of the Turks.*

So *hand* in *hand* they pass'd, the loveliest pair  
That ever since in love's embraces met. *Milt. Parad. Lost.*  
They *hand* in *hand*, with wandering steps and flow,  
Through Eden took their solitary way. *Milton.*  
That wonderful instrument the *hand*, was it made to be  
idle? *Berkley.*

2. Measure of four inches; a measure used in the matches of horses; a palm.

For the other side of the court-gate on this *hand*, and that  
*hand*, were hangings of fifteen cubits. *Ex. xxxviii. 15.*

3. Side, right or left.  
Part; quarter; side.  
It is allowed on all *hands*, that the people of England are  
more corrupt in their morals than any other nation this day  
under the sun. *Swift.*

4. Ready payment with respect to the receiver.  
Of which offer the *hand* accepted, receiving in *hand* one  
year's tribute. *Kneller's History of the Turks.*

These two must make our duty very easy; a considerable  
reward in *hands*, and the assurance of a far greater recompence  
hereafter. *Tillotson's Sermons.*

5. Ready payment with regard to the payer.  
Let not the wages of any man tarry with thee, but give it  
him out of *hand*. *Tob. iv. 14.*

6. Rate; price.  
Time is the measure of business, as money of wares: busi-  
ness is bought at a dear *hand*, where there is small dispatch.  
*Bacon, Essay 26.*

7. Terms; conditions.  
With simplicity admire and accept the mystery; but at no  
*hand* by pride, ignorance, interest, or vanity wrest it to ignoble  
uses. *Taylor's Worshy Communicant.*

It is either an ill sign or an ill effect, and therefore at no *hand*  
consistent with humility. *Taylor's Rule of living holy.*

8. Act; deed; external action.  
Thou sawest the contradiction between my heart and  
*hand*. *King Charles.*

9. Labour; act of the hand.  
Alas! what was a very idle fellow, that never would set his  
*hand* to any business during his father's life. *Addison's Spectator.*  
I rather suspect my own judgment than I can believe a fault  
to be in that poem, which lay so long under Virgil's correc-  
tion, and had his last *hand* put to it. *Addison.*

10. Performance.  
Where are these porters,  
These lazy knaves? Y'ave made a fine *band*! fellows,  
There's a trim rabble let in. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*

11. Power of performance.  
Will Honeycomb has told me, that he had a great mind to  
try his *hand* at a Spectator, and that he would fain have one  
of his writing in my works. *Addison's Spectator.*  
A friend of mine has a very fine *band* on the violin.  
*Addison's Guardian, N<sup>o</sup>. 98.*

12. Attempt; undertaking.  
Out of them you dare take in *hand* to lay open the original  
of such a nation. *Spenser on Ireland.*

13. Manner of gathering or taking.  
As her majesty hath received great profit, so may she, by a  
moderate *hand*, from time to time reap the like. *Bacon.*

14. Workmanship; power or act of manufacturing or making.  
An intelligent being, coming out of the *hands* of infinite  
perfection, with an aversion or even indifference to be re-  
united with its Author, the source of its utmost felicity, is  
such a flock and deformity in the beautiful analogy of things,  
as is not consistent with finite wisdom and perfection. *Cheyne.*

15. Manner of acting or performing.  
The master saw the madnels rise;  
His glowing cheeks, his ardent eyes;  
And while he heav'n and earth defy'd,  
Chang'd his *hand*, and check'd his pride. *Dryden.*

16. Agency; part in action.  
God must have set a more than ordinary esteem upon that  
which David was not thought fit to have an *hand* in. *South.*

17. The act of giving or presenting.  
Let Tamar give the meat in my sight, that I may eat it at  
her *hand*. *2 Sa. xiii. 5.*

18. To-night the poet's advocate I stand,  
And he deserves the favour at my *hand*. *Addison.*

19. Act of receiving any thing ready to one's *hand*, when it only  
wants to be taken.  
His power reaches no farther than to compound and divide  
the materials that are made to his *hand*; but can do nothing  
towards the making or destroying one atom of what is already  
in being. *Locke.*

Many, whose greatness and fortune were not made to their

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*hands*, had sufficient qualifications and opportunities of rising  
to these high posts. *Addison's Freeholder.*

20. Care; necessity of managing.  
Jupiter had a farm a long time upon his *hands*, for want of  
a tenant to come up to his price. *L'Estrange.*

When a statesman wants a day's defence,  
Or envy holds a whole week's war with sense,  
Or simple pride for flattery makes demands,  
May dunc by dunc be whistled off my *hands*. *Pope.*

21. Discharge of duty.  
Let it therefore be required, on both parts, at the *hands* of  
the clergy, to be in manners of estate like the apostles; at  
the *hands*, of the laity, to be as they who lived under the  
apostles. *Hooker, Preface.*

22. Reach; nearness: as, at *hand*, within reach, near, ap-  
proaching.  
Your husband is at *hand*, I hear his trumpet. *Shakesp.*  
Cousins, I hope the days are near at *hand*. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

That chambers will be safe.  
He is at *hand*, and Pindarus is come  
To do you salutation. *Shakespeare's Julius Caesar.*

The fight of his mind was like some fights of eyes; rather  
strong at *hand* than to carry afar off. *Bacon's Henry VII.*  
Any light thing that moveth, when we find no wind, flew  
eth a wind at *hand*. *Bacon's Natural History.*

A very great found near *hand* hath stricken many dead.  
*Bacon's Natural History, N<sup>o</sup>. 128.*

23. It is not probable that any body should effect that at a dis-  
tance, which, nearer *hand*, it cannot perform. *Brown.*  
When mineral or metal is to be generated, nature needs  
not to have at *hand* salt, sulphur, and mercury. *Boyle.*

24. Manual management.  
Nor swords at *hand*, nor hissing darts afar,  
Are doom'd t' avenge the tedious bloody war. *Dryd. Juven.*

State of being in preparation.  
Where is our usual manager of mirth?  
What revels are in *hand*? Is there no play,  
To ease the anguish of a torturing hour? *Shakespeare.*

25. State of being in present agitation.  
I look'd upon her with a soldier's eye;  
That lik'd, but had a rougher task in *hand*  
Than to drive liking to the name of war. *Shakespeare.*  
It is indifferent to the matter in *hand* which way the learned  
shall determine of it. *Locke.*

26. Cards held at a game.  
There was never an *hand* drawn, that did double the rest of  
the habitable world, before this; for so a man may term it, if  
he shall put to account that which may be hereafter, by the  
occupation and colonizing of those countries. *Bacon.*

27. That which is used in opposition to another.  
He would dispute,  
Confute, change *hands*, and still confute. *Hudibras, p. i.*

28. Scheme of action.  
Consult of your own ways, and think which *hand*  
Is best to take. *Ben. Johnson's Castline.*

They who thought they could never be secure, except the  
king were first at their mercy, were willing to change the *hand*  
in carrying on the war. *Clarendon, b. viii.*

29. Advantage; gain; superiority.  
The French king, supposing to make his *hand* by those rude  
ravages in England, broke off his treaty of peace, and pro-  
claimed hostility. *Hayward.*

30. Competition; contest.  
She in beauty, education, blood,  
Holds *hand* with any prince of the world. *Shakesp. K. Lear.*

31. Transmision; conveyance; agency of conveyance.  
The salutation by the *hand* of me Paul. *Col. iv. 18.*

32. Possession; power.  
Sacraments serve as the moral instruments of God to that pur-  
pose; the use whereof is in our *hands*, the effect in his. *Hooker.*

And though you war, like petty wrangling states,  
You're in my *hand*; and when I bid you cease,  
You shall be crush'd together into peace. *Dryden.*

33. Between the landlord and tenant there must be a quarter of  
the revenue of the land constantly in their *hands*. *Locke.*

34. It is fruitless pains to learn a language, which one may  
guess by his temper he will wholly neglect, as soon as an ap-  
proach to manhood, setting him free from a governor, shall  
put him into the *hands* of his own inclination. *Locke.*

Vegetables Agri were lands taken from the enemy, and  
distributed amongst the soldiers, or left in the *hands* of the pro-  
priators under the condition of certain duties. *Arbutnot.*

35. Prefecture of the bridle.  
There are no tricks in plain and simple faith;  
But hollow men, like horses hot at *hand*,  
Make gallant show and promise of their mettle. *Shakesp.*

36. Method of government; discipline; restraint.  
Menelaus bare an heavy *hand* over the citizens, having a  
malicious mind again st his countrymen. *2 Mac. v. 29.*

He kept a strict *band* on his nobility, and chose rather to  
advance clergymen and lawyers. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

37. However strict a *band* is to be kept upon all desires of fancy,  
yet in recreation fancy must be permitted to speak. *Locke.*

38. Influence; management.  
Flattery, the dangerous nurse of vice,  
Got *hand* upon his youth, to pleasures bent. *Daniel.*

39. That which performs the office of a hand in pointing.  
The body, though it moves, yet changing perceivable dis-  
tance with other bodies, as fast as the ideas of our own minds  
do naturally follow one another, the thing seems to stand still;  
as is evident in the *hands* of clocks and shadows of fun-  
dials. *Locke.*

40. Agent; person employed.  
The wisest prince, if he can save himself and his people  
from ruin, under the worst administration, what may not his  
subjects hope for when he changeth *hands*, and maketh use of  
the best? *Swift.*

41. Giver, and receiver.  
This tradition is more like to be a notion bred in the mind  
of man, than transmitted from *hand* to *hand* through all ge-  
nerations. *Tillotson, Sermon i.*

42. An actor; a workman; a soldier.  
Your wrongs are known: impose but your commands,  
This hour shall bring you twenty thousand *hands*. *Dryd. n.*  
Demetrius appointed the painter guards for his security,  
pleased that he could preserve that *hand* from the barbarity and  
insolence of soldiers. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

A dictionary containing a natural history requires too many  
*hands*, as well as too much time, ever to be hoped for. *Locke.*

43. Catch or reach without choice.  
The men of Israel smote as well the men of every city as  
the beasts, and all that came to *hand*. *Judg. xx. 48.*  
A twenty reaper from his tillage brought  
First fruits, the green ear, and the yellow sheaf,  
Uncull'd as came to *hand*. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. xi.*

44. Form or cast of writing.  
Here is th' indictment of the good lord Hastings,  
Which in a set *hand* fairly is engros'd;  
Eleven hours I've spent to write it over. *Shakesp. Rich. III.*  
Solyman shew'd him his own letters intercepted, asking  
him if he knew not that *hand*, if he knew not that seal. *Knoll.*  
Being discovered by their knowledge of Mr. Cowley's *hand*,  
I happily escaped. *Denham, Dedication.*

If my debtors do not keep their day,  
Deny their *hands*, and then refuse to pay,  
I must attend. *Dryd. Juvenal.*

45. Whether men write court or Roman *hand*, or any other,  
there is something peculiar in every one's writing. *Cockburn.*  
The way to teach to write, is to get a plate graved with the  
characters of such *hand* you like. *Locke.*

Constantia saw that the *hand* writing agreed with the con-  
tents of the letter. *Addison's Spectator.*

46. I present these thoughts in an ill *hand*; but scholars are bad  
penmen: we seldom regard the mechanic part of writing.  
*Felton on the Classics.*

47. They were wrote on both sides, and in a small *hand*. *Arbut.*

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45. HAND over head. Negligently; rashly; without seeing what  
one does.  
So many strokes of the alarm bell of fear and awaking to  
other nations, and the facility of the titles, which, *hand over*  
*head*, have served their turn, doth ring the peal so much the  
louder. *Bacon's War with Spain.*

A country fellow got an unlucky tumble from a tree: thus  
tis, says a passenger, when people will be doing things *hand*  
*over head*, without either fear or wit. *L'Estrange.*

46. HAND to HAND. Close fight.  
In single opposition, *hand* to *hand*,  
He did confound the best part of an hour. *Shakesp. H. IV.*  
He issues, ere the fight, his dread command,  
That flings afar, and points *hand* to *hand*,  
Be banish'd from the field. *Dryden's Fables.*

47. HAND in HAND. In union; conjointly.  
Had the sea been Marlborough's element, the war had been  
bestowed there, to the advantage of the country, which would  
then have gone *hand* in *hand* with his own. *Swift.*

48. HAND in HAND. Fit; par.  
As fair and as good, a kind of *hand* in *hand* comparison,  
had been something too fair and too good for any lady in Bri-  
tany. *Shakespeare's Cymbeline.*

49. HAND to mouth. As want requires.  
I can get bread from *hand* to *mouth*, and make even at the  
year's end. *L'Estrange.*

50. To hear in HAND. To keep in expectation; to elude.  
A rascally yea forsooth knave, to *hear* in *hand*, and then  
stand upon security. *Shakespeare's Henry IV. p. ii.*

51. To be HAND and GIVE. To be intimate and familiar.  
To HAND, *v. a.* [from the noun.]  
To give or transmit with the *hand*.  
Judas was not far off, not only because he dipped in the  
same dish, but because he was so near that our Saviour could  
*hand* the sop unto him. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

52. Reports, like snowballs, gather still the farther they roll;

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and when I have once *handed* it to another, how know I how  
he may improve it? *Government of the Tongue.*

I have been shewn a written prophecy that is *handed* among  
them with great secrecy. *Addison's Freeholder.*

2. To guide or lead by the hand.  
Angels did *hand* her up, who next God dwell;  
For she was of that order whence most fell. *Donne.*

By safe and insensible degrees he will pass from a boy to a  
man, which is the most hazardous step in life: this therefore  
should be carefully watched, and a young man with great dili-  
gence *handed* over it. *Locke.*

3. To seize; to lay hands on.  
Let him, that makes but trifles of his eyes,  
First *hand* me: on mine own accord, I'll off. *Shakespeare.*

4. To manage; to move with the hand.  
'Tis then that with delight I rove  
Upon the boundless depth of love:  
I bless my chains, I *hand* my oar,  
Nor think on all I left on shore. *Prior.*

5. To transmit in succession; to deliver down from one to an-  
other.  
They had not only a tradition of it in general, but even of  
several the most remarkable particular accidents of it likewise,  
which they *handed* downwards to the succeeding ages. *Woodw.*

I know no other way of securing these monuments, and  
making them numerous enough to be *handed* down to future  
ages. *Addison on ancient Medals.*

Arts and sciences consist of scattered theorems and practices,  
which are *handed* about amongst the masters, and only revealed  
to the *filii artis*, 'till some great genius appears, who collects  
these disjointed propositions, and reduces them into a regular  
system. *Arbutnot's History of John Bull.*

One would think a story so fit for age to talk of, and in-  
fancy to hear, were incapable of being *handed* down to us.  
*Pope's Essay on Homer.*

HAND is much used in composition for that which is manage-  
able by the hand, as a *hand-saw*; or born in the hand, as a  
*hand-barrow*.

HAND-BARROW. *n. f.* A frame on which any thing is carried  
by the hands of two men, without wheeling on the ground.  
A *hand-barrow*, wheelbarrow, shovel and spade. *Tusser.*

Set the board whereon the hive standeth on a *hand-barrow*,  
and carry them to the place you intend. *Mortim. Husbandry.*

HAND-BASKET. *n. f.* A portable basket.  
You must have woollen yarn to tie grafts with, and a final  
*hand-basket* to carry them in. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

HAND-BELL. *n. f.* A bell rung by the hand.  
The strength of the percussion is a principal cause of the  
loudness or softness of sounds; as in ringing of a *hand-bell*  
harder or softer. *Bacon's Natural History.*

HAND-BREADTH. *n. f.* A space equal to the breadth of the  
*hand*; a palm.  
A border of an *hand-breadth* round about. *Ex. xxv. 25.*  
Within were hooks an *hand-breadth*, fastened round about. *Ezek. xl. 43.*

The eastern people determined their *hand-breadth* by the  
breadth of barley-corns, six making a digit, and twenty-four  
a *hand's breadth*. *Arbutnot on Coins.*

HANDED. *adj.* [from *hand*.]  
1. Having the use of the hand left or right.  
Many are right *handed*, whose livers are weakly consti-  
tuted; and many use the left, in whom that part is strongest.  
*Brown's Vulgar Errors, b. iv. c. 5.*

2. With hands joined.  
Into their inmost bow'r  
*Handed* they went. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. iv.*

HANDER. *n. f.* [from *hand*.] Transmitter; conveyer in suc-  
cession.

They would assume, with wondrous art,  
Themselves to be the whole, who are but part,  
Of that vast frame the church; yet grant they were  
The *handers* down, can they from thence infer  
A right t' interpret? Or would they alone,  
Who brought the present, claim it for their own? *Dryden.*

HANDFAST. *n. f.* [from *hand* and *fast*.] Hold; custody. Obsolete.  
If that shepherd be not in *handfast*, let him fly. *Shakespeare.*

HANDFUL. *n. f.* [from *hand* and *full*.]  
1. As much as the hand can gripe or contain.  
In the park I saw a country gentleman at the side of Rosa-  
mond's pond, pulling a *handful* of oats out of his pocket, and  
gathering the ducks about him. *Freeholder, N<sup>o</sup>. 44.*

2. A palm; a hand's breadth; four inches.  
Take one vessel of silver and another of wood, each full  
of water, and knap the tongs together about an *handful*